

United States Government

Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: October 17, 2005

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEP-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Transmission System Vegetation Management Program FEIS  
(DOE/EIS-0285/SA-266-Driscoll Substation) **Project #: V-O-05/17**

to: Kathy Stephenson  
Forester – TRV-TPP-4

**Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to cut trees along the Allston Driscoll transmission line corridor and additional areas of the property surrounding Driscoll substation. The subject vegetation (trees) are mature enough to potentially interfere with the safety, operation, maintenance, and reliability of the transmission lines, microwave beam path, and substation facility

**Location:** The project area involves BPA fee owned property consisting of rural forest surrounding BPA transmission lines and Driscoll Substation. Taylor View Rd. & Hwy 30, Wauna, Clatsop County, Or. The property covers an area of approximately 15.73 acres, of which only a small portion will be managed.

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).

**Description of the Proposal:** BPA proposes to remove trees from the right of way and area surrounding Driscoll substation that can potentially interfere with the operation, safety, maintenance, and reliability of the transmission lines and facility. Trees will be removed using selective cutting along sections of the Allston Driscoll transmission line corridor to maintain the proper minimum approach distance (MAD). Additionally trees will be thinned from other areas if the property to maintain the health and stability of the stands. The project area consists of BPA fee owned property that includes Driscoll Substation, located in Clatsop County, OR.

**Analysis:** A Vegetation Management Checklist was completed for this project in accordance with the requirements identified in the Bonneville Power Administrations Transmission System Vegetation Management Program FEIS (DOE/EIS-0285).

Section 3 of the checklist identifies the natural resources present in the area of the proposed work. The following summarizes natural resources occurring in the project area along with applicable mitigation measures.

**Water Resources:** No water bodies, including streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands are located within the project area.

**Threatened and Endangered Species/Essential Fish Habitat:** Pursuant to its obligations under the Endangered Species Act, BPA has made a determination of whether its proposed project will have any effects on any listed species. A Species list for Clatsop County was received from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Portland, OR office on July 14, 2005 for the

proposed vegetation management project. The list included Threatened and Endangered listed, proposed, and candidate species potentially occurring in Clatsop County, OR. The list is based on species that potentially occur within the subject county and is not project site specific. In addition a review of species under the jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries was conducted. A determination of “No Effect” was made for all ESA listed species and designated critical habitat for the project. A determination of “No Effect” for the project area was made for Essential Fish Habitat.

Cultural Resources: No cultural resources are known for the project area. If a site is discovered during the course of the project, work will be stopped in the vicinity and the appropriate BPA Tribal Liaison, tribe, BPA Environmental Specialist, and BPA archeologist will be contacted.

Monitoring: The entire project will be inspected during the work period.

**Findings:** This Supplement Analysis finds that (1) the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Transmission System Vegetation Management Program FEIS (DOE/EIS-0285) and ROD, and; (2) there are no new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed actions or their impacts. This Supplement Analysis also finds the proposed actions will not affect threatened or endangered species. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ James R. Meyer for  
Greg P. Tippetts  
Physical Scientist

CONCUR: /s/ Katherine S. Pierce  
Katherine S. Pierce  
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: 10/17/2005

Attachment  
Vegetation Management Checklist  
Effects Determined

cc:

K. Pierce – KEC-4

J. Meyer – KEP-4

J. Sharpe – KEPR-4

G. Tippetts – KEPR/Olympia

H. Adams – LC-7

J. Hilliard Creecy – T-DITT2

D. Krauss – TFO/Olympia

D. Swanson – TFOP/LMT

Environmental File – KEC-4

Official File – (EQ-14)

Gtippetts:gt:4722:9/20/2005 (KEP-KEPR/OLYMPIA-W:\EP\2005 FILES\EQ-14-Supplement Analysis\FEIS-0285-SA-266-Driscoll Substation.doc)